

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Revczky, Commissioner
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
July 5, 2017



THIRD-GENERATION TOBACCO FARM FOREVER PRESERVED FOR AGRICULTURAL USE **“This Farm Is What Makes Me Who I Am”**

By Steve Jensen, Office of Commissioner Steven K. Revczky

On land where his grandfather first planted a crop of tobacco more than a century ago, Steve Jarmoc is intent on seeing his family’s agricultural legacy continue for generations to come after conveying the farms’ development rights to the state last week under its Farm-land Preservation Program.

“This farm is what makes me who I am,” Jarmoc said as he hoed a field of broadleaf cigar-wrapper tobacco that is part of the 225-plus acre preservation in Enfield and neighboring Somers. “This is what I know and what I love, and by preserving it I hope someday it will do that for others.”

The program allows farmers to convey their property’s development rights to the state, but still own and work the land and contribute to the local tax base. Owners also may convey their land to others, but a permanent deed restriction assures the property will always remain available for agriculture.

Agricultural Commissioner Steven K. Revczky said the Jarmoc properties not only contain a high

percentage of prime Connecticut River Valley soils, but were attractive to potential non-farm development because of their flat topography and proximity to a relatively large suburban population.

“This is an important preservation on many levels,” Revczky said. “With so much former tobacco land now becoming available on the market, this ensures that a significant piece of it will forever remain available for agricultural production.”

The farm was started in the early 1900s by Jarmoc’s grandfather, Stanley Jarmoc, who had emigrated from Poland and at first found work as a farm-hand.

Part of his job was to buy supplies and equipment at the local E.C. Allen and Sons store, where one day the owner asked if Stanley was interested in owning his own farm. That led to the owner loaning Jarmoc \$3,400 to buy 40 acres of farmland at Abbe and Town Farm roads that is now known as the family’s “home farm.”

(Continued on Page 3)

LANCASTER, PA., LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted.

	LOW	HIGH
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	74.00	79.50
boners 80-85% lean	73.00	78.00
lean 88-90% lean	68.00	74.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	123.50	128.50
Choice 2-3	118.00	123.50
Select 1-2	113.00	117.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
Hi Choice/Prime 3-4	101.00	106.00
Choice 2-3	93.00	97.00
Sel 1-2	87.00	96.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 2-3	122.50	130.50
Choice 2-3	115.00	120.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 90-130 lbs	165.00	177.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
90-110 lbs	215.00	223.00
110-130 lbs	210.00	221.00
130-150 lbs	190.00	215.00
150-200 lbs	175.00	187.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	95.00	125.00
120-160 lbs	85.00	100.00
160-200 lbs	80.00	107.00
200-300 lbs	72.00	102.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
20-40 lbs	105.00	130.00
40-60 lbs	145.00	165.00
60-80 lbs	170.00	195.00
80-100 lbs	190.00	195.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	170.00	190.00
130-170 lbs	210.00	260.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
80-100 lbs	190.00	245.00
100-150 lbs	255.00	285.00
150-250 lbs	295.00	365.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Avg dressing. Per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	61.00	65.00
	300-350 lbs	59.00	64.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	56.00	61.50
	300-350 lbs	54.00	58.50
Sows, US 1-3	300-500 lbs	45.00	53.00
	500-800 lbs	51.00	56.50
Boars	500-600 lbs	5.00	7.00

USDA WHOLESALE CUTFLOWERS

July 5, 2017. \$/pack as noted

ALLIUM, STEM, NL	3.50	3.50
ALSTROEMERIA, 10/BN, CD	7.50	8.50
ASTER, CA, PER BN	7.50	7.50
ASTILBE, 10/BN, CA, LONG	16.00	16.00
DAHLIA, 5/BN, CA, LONG	15.00	15.00
DELPHINIUM, 10/BN, CA, LONG	12.50	12.50
GERBERA, MINI, STEM, CD, L	.75	.75
GLAD, STD, 10/BN, CA, LONG	12.00	15.00
HYDRANGEA, STEM, CB, SHRT	1.85	2.25
IRIS, DUTCH, 10/BN, CA, L	6.50	7.50
LILIES, ASIA, /BN, CA, LONG	13.50	15.00
PEONY, 10/BN, NJ, LONG	20.00	25.00
QUEEN ANNE LACE, /BN, CA, L	8.50	9.50
SNAPDRAGON, 10/BN, CA, EXL	12.50	12.50
SUNFLOWER, 5/BN, NENG, L	5.00	5.00
YARROW, YLW, /BN, CA, L	8.50	8.50

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLESBoston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices
NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5 LB CTN	14.00	14.00
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 12-4 OZ	16.00	16.50
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEETS, RED, 12 CT	18.00	18.00
BEETS, GOLD, 12 CT	18.00	18.00
CABBAGE, GRN, 50 LB, 1-3/4BU	16.00	16.00
CIDER, APPLE, 4-1 GALLON	21.00	22.00
CIDER, APPLE, 9-1/2 GALLON	22.50	25.00
COLLARDS, 1-3/5 BU	12.00	12.00
KALE, GREEN, 1 BU, 12 BN	12.00	18.00
KALE, LACINITO, 1.3 BU, 12 BN	15.00	15.00
LETTUCES, GRN, RED LF, 24	15.00	15.00
LETTUCE, BOSTON, 24	15.00	15.00
SWISS CHARD, GRN, 12 CT	18.00	18.00
SWISS CHARD, RAINBOW, 12CT	18.00	18.00
SWISS CHARD, RED, 12 CT	16.00	16.00
RADISHES, 24 CT	16.00	16.00
RHUBARB, OPN FIELD, 20 LB	35.00	36.00
SQUASH, ZUCH, S, 1/2 BU	14.00	14.00
SQUASH, ZUCH, M, 1/2 BU	12.00	12.00
SQUASH, YEL STRNCK, S, 1/2 BU	18.00	18.00
SQUASH, YEL STRNCK, M, 1/2 BU	18.00	18.00
STRAWBERRIES, 8-1QT	34.00	34.00
TOMS, GHS, CHRRY, 5 LBS	13.00	14.00
TOMS, GHS, CHRRY, 8-10 OZ	20.00	24.00
TOMS, GHS, 15 LB FLAT	17.00	18.00
TOMS, GHS, 11 LBS, ON VINE	11.00	12.00

SHIPPED IN

BEAN, GREEN, GA, MACHPK, BU	34.00	36.00
BEANS, FAVA, NJ, BU	42.00	45.00
BLACKBRY, NJ, 12-6OZ	22.00	22.00
BLUEBERRIES, NJ, 12-1 PT	26.00	28.00
BOK CHOY, NJ, 2 BU	22.00	26.00
BOKCHOY, SHANGHAI, NJ, 10 LB	14.00	16.00
CABBAGE, RED, NJ, 50 LBS	21.00	23.00
CABBAGE, SAVOY, NJ, 1-3/4	24.00	25.00
CARROTS, BUNCHED, CA, 24	19.00	21.00
CAULIFLOWER, CA, 12	18.00	24.00
CHRRY, BING, WA, 15LB, 9-1/2	68.00	68.00
CHIN. CABBAGE, NJ, 50 LB, 12	22.00	28.00
CORN, GA, 4-1/2 DOZ	14.00	16.00
CUKE, NJ, MEDIUM, 1-1/9	34.00	38.00
CUKE, PICKL, NJ, 150-200, 1-1/9	28.00	35.00
CUKE, PICKL, NJ, 200-300, 1-1/9	40.00	45.00
DANDELION GRNS, NJ, 12 BN	16.00	18.00
EGGPLANT, NJ, MED, 1-1/9	15.00	16.00
ENDIVE, NJ, 1.3 BU, 24	15.00	18.00
ESCAROLE, NJ, 1.3 BU, 24	15.00	18.00
KALE, MULTI CLR, NJ, 12	18.00	18.00
LETT, BSTN, GHS, TN, 12-4 OZ	16.00	17.00
LEEKS, NJ, 12	16.00	18.00
PARSLEY, CURLY, NJ, 60	22.00	24.00
PARSLEY, PLAIN, NJ, 60	25.00	27.00
PEACH, YL, NJ, USX1, 1/2BU, 2-1/4"	20.00	20.00
PEPPER, BELL, GA, JMB, 1-1/9	20.00	22.00
PEPPER, LONGHOT, GA, 1-1/9	16.00	20.00
SPINACH, FLAT, CTN, NJ, 24	22.00	24.00
SPINACH, SMI FLAT, 4 2-1/2 LB	14.50	16.00
SQUASH, GREY, NJ, S, 1/2 BU	22.00	22.00
TURNIPS, PRPL TOP, NJ, 25LB	10.00	12.00
TURNIP TOP GREENS, GA, 12	14.00	16.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - July 2, 2017

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	50.00	55.00
61-75 lbs.	77.50	87.50
76-90 lbs.	110.00	112.00
91-105 lbs.	115.00	118.00
106 lbs. & up	120.00	125.00
Farm Calves	130.00	135.00
Starter Calves	30.00	40.00
Veal Calves	50.00	100.00
Feeder Heifers	73.00	95.00
Beef Heifers	75.00	83.00
Feeder Steers	67.50	73.00
Beef Steers	71.00	140.00
Feeder Bulls	100.00	120.00
Beef Bulls	92.00	97.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	60.00	65.00
Feeder Pigs each	35.00	60.00
Sheep each	40.00	210.00
Lambs each	80.00	185.00
Goats each	62.50	360.00
Kid Goats each	60.00	160.00
Canners	up to	72.50
Cutters	73.00	76.00
Utility Grade Cows	77.00	80.00
Rabbits each	3.00	25.00
Chickens each	4.00	27.00
Ducks each	4.00	10.50

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDAPer doz. Grade A and Grade A white
in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	.70	.85
LARGE	.64	.78
MEDIUM	.50	.63

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGSPer doz. Grade A brown in
carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.19	1.29
LARGE	1.09	1.21
MEDIUM	.78	.89
SMALL	.48	.58

WHOLESALE ORGANIC CERTIFIED ORGANIC POULTRY AND EGGS

Price per carton for eggs. Price per lb for chicken.

EGGS, BROWN SHELL		
XLARGE, DOZEN	2.61	3.60
XLARGE, 1/2 DOZEN	1.80	1.95
EGGS, BROWN SHELL		
LARGE, DOZEN	2.30	3.50
1/2 DOZEN	1.71	1.91
YOUNG CHICKEN		
WHOLE FRYER	1.70	3.32
BNLS BREAST	5.69	10.58
B/IN BREAST	3.60	6.16
WHOLE LEGS	1.88	4.76
THIGHS	1.95	3.11
WHOLE WINGS	n/a	n/a

(Continued from Page 1)

“That was the start of it,” Steve Jarmoc said, explaining that his grandfather mainly raised crops and animals to feed his family, and planted a few acres of tobacco as a cash crop.

Steve’s father Edwin was an electrical engineering instructor who farmed in his spare time until about 1968, when he left his university position and bought two pieces of farmland totaling 37 acres on Broad Brook Road that he planted in tobacco.

As a boy, Steve couldn’t wait to get home from school to help around the farm.

“When I was in 11th grade my Dad said ‘Why don’t you grow some tobacco of your own?’ The first crop actually turned out pretty nice.”

That was the mid-1970s, when wholesale tobacco was selling for about \$13 a pound.

After a surge in the popularity of cigar smoking that Jarmoc says peaked around 1997, the market leveled off significantly and today the per-pound price averages about \$7.50, or perhaps a dollar higher for a “perfect crop.”

Last week, Jarmoc and his crew of about 35 finished transplanting several million seedlings that are first raised in greenhouses.

When the plant reaches about three feet tall, the top flowers are broken off, forcing the plant to broaden to about 3-feet-wide and develop thicker leaves – about a dozen per plant.

Jarmoc says the combination of Connecticut’s often-humid summers and the highly-fertile soil found in the 61-square-mile valley flanking the Connecticut River make for near-perfect tobacco growing conditions.

He also believes the soil has a unique ability to break down and deliver nutrients from fertilizer to

the plant.

“The Connecticut River Valley soil cannot be replicated,” he said. “You can grow anything here.”

Last week’s spell of heat and high humidity was exactly what he was looking for to push the early crop, which will be harvested in late summer.

“The best nights for a tobacco farmer are those nights when it’s so hot you can’t even breathe,” he said. That’s when the tobacco is smiling. At this point it’s growing an inch a night.”

Mature plants are chopped down with a hatchet, then hung on wooden lathes in one of his 60 open-sided barns for curing.

Great care must be taken in harvesting and handling to assure the leaves are undamaged, because only those that are unblemished are suitable for the outer wrapper of a cigar.

“I call it the gift wrap,” Jarmoc said. “How would you like your Christmas present to be wrapped with paper that has holes in it?”

Jarmoc says the broadleaf wrapper is thicker and has a stronger flavor than those made with tobacco grown under shade netting. A high content of tar and nicotine produces wrappers with a signature glossy sheen.

That distinctive quality is also enhanced by the use of natural, oily fertilizers such as cottonseed meal and soybean meal.

“It’s the oiliness and thickness of the leaf that sets it apart,” Jarmoc said. “You could hold up two cigars and I’d know right away which one was grown in the Connecticut River Valley.”

The Farmland Preservation Program has protected nearly 340 farms totaling more than 43,000 acres since its inception in 1978. For more information, please contact Cameron Weimar, Director, at 860-713-2511 or DoAg.Farmland@ct.gov

FOR SALE

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Above: Hatchets for harvesting broadleaf tobacco at Jarmoc Farms sit on dried tobacco leaves and a pile of lathes used to hang the plants for curing in open-sided barns.

Page 1: Steve Jarmoc working in a tobacco field off Shaker Road in Somers that is part of the preservation of more than 225 acres in Somers and Enfield.



**NEW ENGLAND/CT OBSERVATIONS FROM THE
USDA/NASS CROP PROGRESS & CONDITION
REPORT FOR 6/26 THROUGH 7/2**

New England averaged 4 days suitable for field work last week. Scattered thunderstorms brought heavy rain and hail in several counties in the New England states. The high levels of moisture has created some worries about rot, pests, and damage to tree fruits and vegetables

-Connecticut-

New London/ Sarah Woodward

Hot and sunny all week. Thunderstorms Tuesday night, a few reports of small hail. Harvesting strawberries, raspberries, zucchini, snap peas, tomatoes and garlic scapes. Signs of dead gypsy moth caterpillars on tree trunks.

Windham/ Alicia Mott

Scattered thunderstorms produced heavy rain and localized hail throughout the week. Temperatures have stayed consistently warm in the 80's. Producers are picking raspberries, strawberries, asparagus, carrots, radishes, and lettuce. Corn is up, and hay chopping continues.

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